on Nepalese gurkhas. However, as per 2001 census, there are 6,40,862 persons who have reportedly been born in Nepal and enumerated in India.

(b) There are no reports to indicate that Nepalese gurkhas are taking up arms for Maoists in the wake of lesser job opportunities in the Army.

(c) Does not arise.

Census of religion basis

1010. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had directed State Governments to conduct census on religion basis as reported in a section of print media;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what was the idea of Government to conduct census on religion basis; and

(d) whether Government had received any objection to such move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Formation of 'Bharat Rakshit Vahini'

†1011. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to form "Bharat Rakshit Vahini" to tackle the problem of Naxalism in Madhya Pradesh is pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have sanctioned Rs. 13 crores for formation of "Bharat Rakshit Vahini" I.R. Battalion; and

(d) if so, the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): No, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has sanctioned one India Reserve Battalion (Bharat Rakshit Vahini) to the Government of Madhya Pradesh with financial assistance of Rs. 13 crores towards its initial raising cost. The State Government has initiated steps to raise the same. After the Battalion is raised the Government may utilize it on counter Naxalite duties if it so desires.

Non-utilization of funds by Naxal affected States

†1012. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the States are unable to fully utilize the funds given by the central Government to tackle the problem of naxalism;

(b) if so, whether the main reason thereof is the inability of the States to make 50 per cent contribution due to their poor economic condition;

(c) if so, whether Government would consider to free the Naxalism affected States from making their contribution and that Central Government should provide 100 per cent assistance; and

(d) if so, by when it will be done and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (d) A large portion of the funds allocated under the erstwhile Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme for Naxalite affected States remained unutilized mainly due to the rate of reimbursement being 50% and its specified scope with regard to number of eligible items.

In view of the above, the scheme has been comprehensively revised in February, 2005. It now envisages reimbursement of 100% subject to prescribed maximum items for certain items for the expenditure incurred on ex-gratia grant paid to families of the victims of Naxalite violence, special training given to State Police personnel, insurance for State Police personnel involved in anti-Naxalite operations, a lumpsum grant to Village Defence Committees (VDCs)/Nagrik Suraksha Samitis (NSSs), rehabilitation of Naxalite surrenderee, publicity material, hiring of vehicles, weapons or

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.